

THE HOME OF
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THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 3, 1924

EDITORIAL

Good Roads as an Advertisement

The cost of building and maintaining roads seems so great, says the Owen Sound Sun-Times, that many taxpayers are inclined to lie down and say they simply cannot be afforded. Yet before taking that attitude, it is well to reflect on the returns that a good road brings. The news that a certain city or district has good roads spreads for many miles around. Motorists drive that way when out for pleasure or will go in that direction when seeking a trade centre. They will go many miles out of their way if they can find a good road into some business centre. The convenience and comfort of a good road is a magnet which draws trade and business that spreads prosperity throughout the surrounding country. It makes a city seem as if it were one. The streets in its business centre are filled with visitors, while a city with poor outlying roads find visitors going elsewhere. It costs something to solve the good roads problem, but it costs more not to.

One Cow to Every Family

Agricultural economists in the United States, who have been studying census figures, announce that the country has one cow to every averaged-sized family. Even at that dairy cows have been increasing in number since the middle of last century only one cow to every two families. It is presumed something of the same ratio of increase would prevail in Canada. Taking this tendency these scientists go on to show how, in another hundred years, the nation will have to cut its meat consumption and approach European standards of living. Is anyone around here afraid of the outlook? By that time, it appears, the spread of modern physical culture methods and the increase in the consumption of green food is being brought about by plain common sense. It will doubtless provide the requisite meat per capita in Canada to-day is in the order of several pounds of what it was in the days of our grandfathers, when fat pork was the staple.

Red Tape Needed

The Municipal Council of Ottawa, in its report on the city's financial condition, is of the opinion that the city should have a more efficient method of raising revenue. In these days, the economy of time is a thing to be reckoned with and it seems that the Municipal Council would be well to make a resolution by which the City Council is authorized to employ a great time and labor saver. It always looks to us as if the city would be well to have a few by-laws for the purpose of saving time and labor. By-laws for the purpose of saving time and labor are well retained, but for the appointment of assessors, collectors, clerks, school attendance officers, weed inspectors, pathmasters, fenceviewers, poundkeepers and other minor municipal positions it always appears to us as quite unnecessary. Inasmuch as nearly every by-law is passed at the suggestion of the Council—parliamentary rule of order, requiring the different readings at successive meetings being suspended—there is no object in taking time for the three readings.

A "Safety First" Law

Daily we read of grade crossing accidents with the inevitable death list. Warning devices, gates, flagmen and even approaching trains, which are in plain sight, fail to deter many drivers in their mad dash to cross tracks without hesitating a few seconds. In their determination to eliminate railroading accidents the cities of North Chicago, Waukegan, Wis., and several states including Indiana and Virginia have passed ordinances which provide that all vehicles, automobiles, trucks, and other conveyances propelled by animal or mechanical power, and upon the streets and highways within the city limits and states, shall not approach a railroad crossing by a full stop ten feet therefrom and the driver shall give the signal by sounding the horn if the way is clear before proceeding across the tracks. A fine of \$5.00 or more than \$20.00 for each offence, town or provincial laws throughout the country would reduce to a minimum the number of deaths which runs into many hundreds annually. Such a law which saves lives instead of an expense to the taxpayers, through fines collected for violations of the law, should be passed by the Ontario Legislature.

Why has the Farm Lost its Attractiveness?

Are we to understand that the present uneasy feeling is owing to the less productivity of the soil or have some adverse circumstances arisen to crowd or drive farmers off the land? We are told by one writer in the United States that only about a third of the active farmers in that country are independent in the sense of owning, free and clear, the land they till. From the number of auction sales held the last two autumns we fear there is restlessness on many farms in old Ontario that have been considered excellent farmsteads. We fear the situation is being made serious for some reason, real or imaginary, and we wonder what is really the matter with farming to-day. Why has its attractiveness lost its old inherent charm and stability of character? Why is the farmer's life no longer "the life for me?"—Bowmanville Statesman.

Support Your Local Newspaper

The local newspaper is an institution of prime importance in the development of our great Dominion. The local paper serves as the "magnifying glass" of that fortunate majority which lives outside of the big cities, helps largely to develop and encourage the community spirit without which co-ordinated progress is impossible. Its strength as a newspaper lies in its intimate knowledge of local conditions, local aspirations, local personalities and local incidents. It has established a contact with its constituency which has no parallel amongst the great daily newspapers or the journals of national circulation. The local weekly newspaper is in a class by itself. In order that the local newspapers of Canada may function as virile influences in the progress and well-being of their respective communities, they need and deserve the active support of all good citizens.

The Country Boy Gets There

There sometimes seems to be too many distractions for the children these days. One man said the other day there is so much going on that the pupils are leaving school to go to it. The pupils attending school in the town evidently do not advance in their studies as rapidly as school children in the rural schools, and this is probably the reason. There are so many things to keep the child excited over; so many places to go; so many activities to take part in; so many movies, and so forth. The country boy, when he becomes a man he goes to the city and takes the place of the boy who had to go to school from the time he was six till he is grown. Hence the country boys are running the big industries, the big institutions, and holding the big positions in eight out of every ten cases. The cases of Hon. E. C. Drury, ex-Premier, and Mayor Hiltz, of Toronto, are concrete examples of this.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Judging by the display of hokey advertising in the journals and newspapers of Canada and the United States recently this must be one of the money-making businesses of the day.

Fifty years from now, when the West becomes a good deal more thickly populated, it will be time enough to think of developing the harbor facilities of Hudson's Bay and of completing the railway to the projected ports. Too much money has already been spent on the scheme, concerning which there is only the slightest likelihood of practicability.

The Canadian Ford factory turned out its five hundred thousandth car the other day. And this is estimated to be just about one-twentieth of the product of the United States' factories. Isn't it only a few years since some of us were talking about the impossibility of a million cars being marketed? And, according to the authorities, there doesn't seem any signs that the saturation stage has been anywhere nearly reached yet.

This seems to be fated to be the generation in which disease, as we know it, is to disappear. What with Dr. Banting's control of diabetes, the new serums to guard against whooping-cough, scarlet fever and other similar and familiar maladies and the new light recently thrown on the cancer problem, the medical profession is surely making progress. Let's hope these wonderful new discoveries do not bring some other misery in their train.

Isn't it about time something definite was done regarding that motor tourists' park for Acton? A little trouble taken and a small amount expended will bring back five hundred per cent. interest in a year or two in the amount left with our local merchants by these camping tourists. It would almost be worth while, indeed, for the garage men in town, as they have done in other municipalities, to get together and outfit a convenient location in the park so as to provide comfortable accommodation.

How rumors spread to the disadvantage of villages, towns and districts is pretty well illustrated in the case of the recent epidemic of foot and mouth disease in California. Certain features of the campaign against the disease, which made good news, were widely broadcasted, and led to the belief that a very serious condition was prevalent. Now it occurs, according to the Los Angeles Times, that less than one per cent. of the live stock in California were affected, and that the epidemic has been manifest in less than five-one hundredths of one per cent. of the State's area. Somehow or other bad news always spreads more widely and much more rapidly than news of a helpful nature.

It was rather reassuring to note how the head of the "retail druggists" of Ontario, at the recent convention of the Association, condemned in no uncertain terms the members of the profession who seek to disregard the law as to supplying liquor. President Rowbeck referred to such as "Our bootlegging members," and expressed the thought that it would only be a matter of a short time until such men were driven out of the profession. There has been a tendency on the part of many who wished to discredit the Ontario Temperance Act to speak casually of the drug trade as a source of supply. Those who stopped to think must have been aware that the drug trade as a whole is a self-respecting, as well as a law-abiding body, and that there have been no doubt many who have been on the

**Neighborhood News--
Town and Country**

OAKVILLE
Mr. Frederick Harris, of the Harris Music Co., has taken out a building permit for office and warehouse rooms on Dundas Street.

On Friday evening last, someone in the vicinity of the grating in front of J. N. MacGregor's store, Mr. MacGregor noticed quite a blaze, and was able to get it out before it had a chance to spread.

Mr. Bert Swan, Fifth Line, Oakville, has been engaged to judge all breeds of dogs at the Regina Kennel Club dog show, held in connection with the Saskatchewan Exhibition at Regina. This is a three-day show.

Chief Kerr had in his office on Wednesday evening, by way of evidence, a whole case of native wines. Someone had evidently been caught with the goods.

It was reported on Tuesday that three boxes of strawberries had been picked from a local patch, but the grower withholds his name for fear that the announcement might be taken for an invitation.—Record.

GEORGETOWN
The Tennis Club held a successful dance in the assembly room at the Arena last Friday evening.

Mr. Robert Barber, of Toronto, was a visitor in town last week. Mrs. W. R. Watson spent the week-end with relatives in Welland.

Miss Charlotte Spelman, of Preston, is visiting Mrs. J. M. Buck. Mr. and Mrs. Allan Feller and family left last week for Pittsburgh, where Mr. Robert Sinclair, of Rainy River, an old Acton boy, made the Harold R. Mr. and Mrs. Ernest A. Cummings and son, Douglas, of Temiskaming Drive, are visiting relatives in Toronto.

Mr. T. H. D. McCullough, publisher and proprietor of the Weyburn, Sask., Review, accompanied by Mrs. McCullough, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Wilson.

Miss Thelma Henry, of Toronto, is spending her holidays at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Henry, of Maxville, Ontario, where she is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Grant during the week.

Mrs. Robert Hickey and Miss Hickey, Georgetown, and Miss Macnamara, of Detroit, left last Thursday on a trip to England and France.

Mr. and Mrs. James Thompson and Mrs. Norman, motored from Rivers, Que., and visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. N. Bell during the past week.

The Board of Arbitrators, Cleave in the Town of Georgetown, held session in the Council Chamber on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Some blankets stolen from a Pullman car at Georgetown, were recovered by Chief Jackson the same afternoon in the old evaporator.

Mr. W. H. Brennan, of Hamilton, a pupil of Mr. Ernest Martin, sang golos last Sunday, which were much appreciated. He was a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Fleck over the week-end.

Dr. McAndrew, dated at Palermo, Sicily, states that he is well, enjoying life and returning to Paris in a few days. He will be in London this month, and expects to see a lot of friends at the big exhibition.

At a well-attended meeting of bandmen held in the arena on Tuesday evening, the following officers were elected for the Oddfellows' Band: President, W. Marshall; Vice-President, A. Tost; Secretary, Treasurer, T. Eason; Librarian, J. Carter; Property, Mr. H. Hale and C. Brandford; Entertainment, R. E. Thompson, B. Thompson and C. Cole; Assistant Librarian, R. E. Thompson. Great interest is manifest by the large number that turn out for rehearsal, and there is every prospect of having a first-class band in the near future.—Herald.

ERIN
Hon. Duncan Marshall was the guest of Dr. and Mrs. Abbott over the week-end.

Mr. Harley Dickson visited with Toronto friends for a few days last week.

Miss Margaret McMillan, of North Bay, is visiting with her mother here. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Stewart and Mr. and Mrs. John Reid, of Maple Valley, were week-end visitors with Mr. and Mrs. E. Crosby.

THE VALUE OF PEDIGREE IN SEED

"Pedigree" in seed grain bears essentially the same relationship to crop production as "pedigree" in the case of live stock bears in relation to the profitable production of milk or meat. The value of pedigree in live stock has been recognized for centuries, but it is only within comparatively recent times that the principles of breeding have been found to apply in the case of plant life. Even to-day, comparatively few people realize that reproduction in plants follows essentially the same laws of nature and take place in much the same way as it does in the case of animals. In the case of our ordinary grain crops, the male and female organs are situated in the one (stamens) from the flower and introduced during the fertilizing element, known as pollen, from the male organs of another variety. The seed resulting from this fertilization combines the potentialities of the two parents. It is therefore of the utmost importance that the varieties chosen as parents possess qualities of outstanding merit. The varieties of grain which are grown to-day in Canada have been produced chiefly by artificial or natural crossing of different varieties, followed by rigid selection. As might naturally be expected, varieties differ greatly, not only in visible characters, but in their ability to yield. Some, moreover, are suited to certain conditions of soil and climate, while others thrive satisfactorily under conditions which are quite different. In view of these facts, it is obvious that the individual farmer should do a certain amount of variety testing on his own farm from time to time. While his nearest Experimental Station will be able to advise him as to what varieties are likely to thrive under his conditions, it is almost necessary that he try these varieties on his own farm for a year or two, in order to be sure which is most suitable for his particular conditions. Here the performance record as in the dairy cow will be the deciding factor, but the foundation for this record will have been laid through generations of careful breeding.—L. H. Newman, Dominion Cerealist.

IT CAME LATER

Henry Guy Carleton, the dramatic author, has an impediment in his speech, but this circumstance does not interfere with his gift at conversation. The Chicago Evening Post declares that at reports he has few superiors, and gives the following story:

One day a lady said to him, "Mr. Carleton, were you born with that impediment?" "If I may ask the question without impudence?" "No, madam," was the reply, "I did not begin it until I began to talk."

When he first met William R. Traverser, also an inveterate stammerer and a great wit, Traverser said to him, "Mr. Carleton, I see that you and I speak exactly alike." "The same, no doubt."



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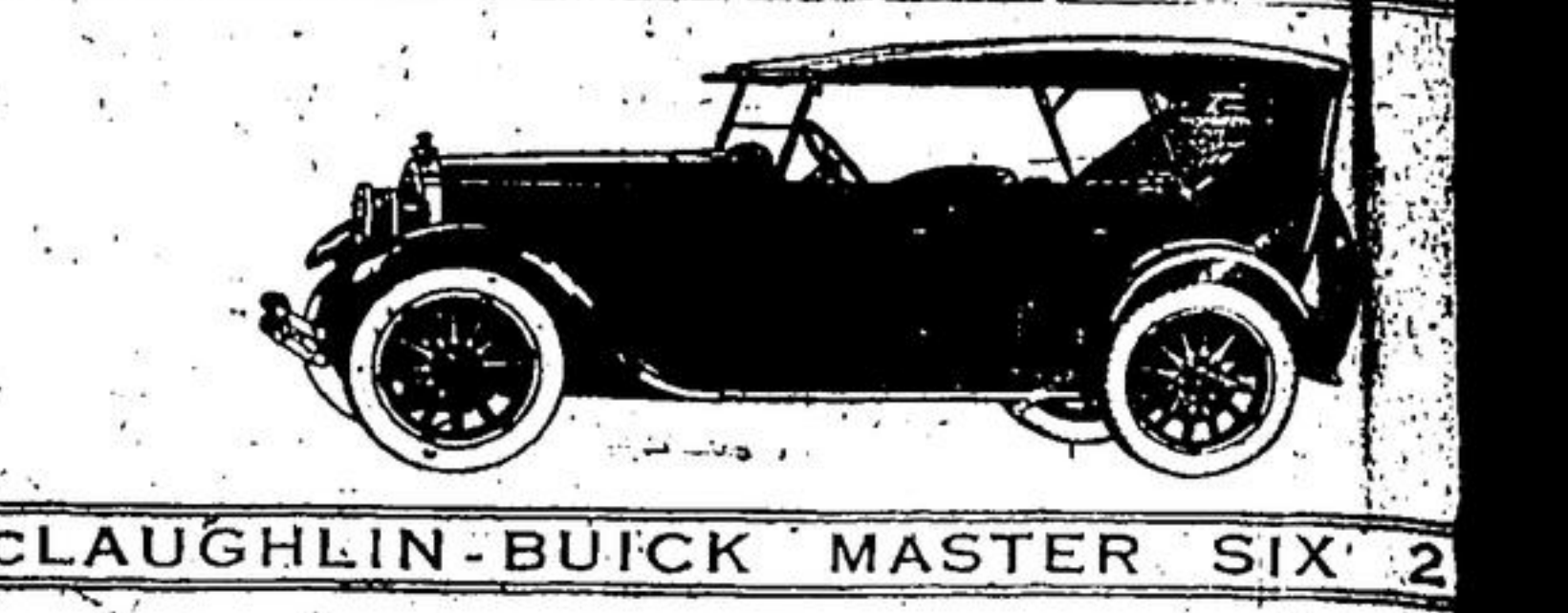
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